



For Immediate Release:  
May 24, 2006  
AFS News Release 2006-09

Contact:  
Kevin McIver, Public Affairs, 907-356-5511

## **PRESCRIBED FIRES TO BE CONDUCTED TODAY AND THIS WEEKEND**

### **SMALL ARMS RANGE, FORT WAINWRIGHT:**

The BLM Alaska Fire Service plans to conduct a prescribed fire today at the small arms range on Fort Wainwright southeast of Fairbanks, if weather conditions are favorable.

The range, consisting of five units at approximately 2,053 acres total, will be aerially ignited. The expected duration of the burn is three to five days, depending on how well the fuels are consumed. Prescribed fire activities on the range are an annual event and are used to reduce fuels that could ignite later in the season during military training exercises.

### **OKLAHOMA RANGE, DONNELLY TRAINING AREA:**

Another prescribed fire will be conducted this weekend, given favorable weather conditions, on the Oklahoma Range 25 miles west of Delta Junction. The goal of the prescribed fire is to reduce the possibility that an ignition sustained during military training exercises might escape outside the impact area boundary. Approximately 5,000 acres will be burned through aerial ignition and the expected duration of the project is two days. *For more information about the Donnelly Training Area go to their website at: [http://www.usarak.army.mil/conservation/NR\\_dta.htm](http://www.usarak.army.mil/conservation/NR_dta.htm).*

### **SMOKE:**

Both prescribed fires will only be ignited when conditions are such that the majority of the smoke will drift away from population centers located near the burn areas. Smoke plumes may be visible for miles and may persist in the area for several days depending on weather conditions.

*For more information about the prescribed fires, please refer to the BLM Alaska Fire Service website: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs> (under "Fire Management/Planning").*

###

The Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service provides wildland fire suppression services for all Department of the Interior and Native Corporation lands in Alaska and assists those entities with other fire management activities, including: guidance and interpretation of fire policy for BLM Alaska and management of the BLM Alaska aviation program. In addition to fire suppression missions, AFS also conducts prescribed fires in accordance with various partner agreements.